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CLAIMS

- 1.- A lock (1) for a door of a motor vehicle, comprising a closing mechanism (4) designed to co-operate with a lock striker (6), said closing mechanism (4) comprising:
5 - a fork (8) which can assume an opening position, in which it enables engagement and disengagement between said lock striker (6) and a seat (13) thereof, and a closing position, in which it withholds said lock striker (6) within its seat (13) and
10 prevents disengagement thereof; and
- a dog (9), which can be coupled via snap-action with said fork (8) for blocking it in a releasable way in said closing position;
said lock being characterized in that it comprises auxiliary
15 lever means (22), which can be actuated by said fork (8) during coupling with said lock striker (6) for exerting an action of thrust on said dog (9) and causing it to couple with the fork (8) itself.
- 20 2.- The lock according to Claim 1, characterized in that said fork (8) is elastically loaded towards said opening position, can be displaced, under the thrust of said lock striker (6), from said opening position to an overtravel position set beyond said closing position, and can be coupled via snap-
25 action with said dog (9) during the elastic return from said overtravel position to said closing position, said fork (8) co-operating with said auxiliary lever means (22) between said closing and overtravel positions.
- 30 3.- The lock according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterized in that said fork (8) and said dog (9) can rotate about a first axis (A) and a second axis (B) parallel to one another, and in that said auxiliary lever means comprise a lever (22), which can turn about a third axis (C) parallel to said first and
35 second axes (A, B) and has an actuating portion (25), co-

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operating with said fork (8), and a thrust portion (26), co-operating with said dog (9).

4.- The lock according to Claim 3, characterized in that said lever (22) is basically L-shaped and comprises an intermediate portion (24), hinged about said third axis (C), and two arms (25, 26), which project in cantilever fashion from said intermediate portion (24) and define said actuating portion and thrust portion.

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5 5.- The lock according to Claim 3 or Claim 4, characterized in that said lever (22) is loaded by elastic means (29) towards a position of detachment from said dog (9).

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6.- The lock according to any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that said fork (8) has, within its own lateral profile, an interaction portion (28) for interaction with said auxiliary lever means (22), which projects in cantilever fashion from the fork (8) itself, and in that said auxiliary lever means (22) are set, at least in an area corresponding to the part (25) designed to co-operate with said interaction portion (28) of said fork (8), on a plane parallel to the plane of lie of the fork (8) itself.

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